

SAFE TO GROW POLICY STATEMENT

Agreed by the ECC/PCC of the Ecumenical Partnership of West Swindon and The Lydiards

Children and young people belong to our church today. They have much to give as well as receive. We need to listen to them. As we nurture them in worship, learning and in community, life, we will pay appropriate respect to the wishes and feelings of children and young people.

- o The Ecumenical Partnership of West Swindon and The Lydiards commits itself to the nurture and safekeeping of all, especially children and young people, and their spiritual and social development in a safe and secure environment.
- o It is the responsibility of all church members to seek to prevent the physical, sexual, spiritual and emotional abuse of children and young people, and to report any abuse discovered or suspected.
- o We recognise that our work with children and young people is the responsibility of the whole church.
- o The church is committed to supporting, resourcing and training those who work with children and young people.
- o The church is committed to following the Home Office Code of Practice 'Safe from Harm'.
- o Each worker with children and young people will be working in accordance with the church's agreed procedures and will receive supervision especially with appointment procedures, requiring references and Criminal Records bureau checks
- o As part of our commitment to children and young people, the church has appointed:

_____ and _____

to be their Advocate(s). Their name, photograph and phone number will be publicly displayed. The role of the Advocate, is as someone with whom children and young people can chat and share their problems and concerns.

- o As part of our commitment to children and young people, the church has appointed:

as the Safe to Grow Coordinator